the Retail Outlet Dealer only and a master key would be available at the supply location. Since the locks used in this system are claimed to be tamper proof and duplicate keys cannot be made easily, enroute adulteration as well as enroute pilferage are expected to be eliminated.

Study on Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline Project

2546. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tata Energy Research Institute have tied up with the Hydrocarbon Development Institute of Pakistan for jointly studying all aspects of the proposed Indo-Iran gas pipeline project; and

(b) if so, by when their findings are expected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Government has no information on the proposed joint study by the Tata Energy Research Institute, as Government approval is neither required nor sought by the Institute.

Criteria For LPG Connections to States

2547. SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of LPG connections which were given to each States in India during the last year; and

(b) the criteria adopted for sanctioning LPG connections to the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) LPG connections are not allocated State-wise. New LPG connections were released in a phased manner throughout the country depending upon the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability during the last year. Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies had released 119.85 lakhs LPG connections throughout the country during the calendar year, 2000. The State-wise details are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise New LPG Enrolment During the Calendar Year 2000

(Figs. in Lakhs)

States	New LPG Enrol Jan.-Dec. 2000
Andhra Pradesh	15.97
Arunachal Pradesh	0.12
Assam	1.48
Bihar	4.63
Chhattisgarh	0.03
Delhi	1.60
Goa	0.57
Gujarat	5.01
Haryana	3.58
Himachal Pradesh	0.56
Jammu and Kashmir	0.89
Jharkhand	0.03
Karnataka	5.68
Kerala	11.37
Madhya Pradesh	6.38
Maharashtra	10.39
Manipur	0.24
Meghalaya	0.08
Mizoram	0.23
Nagaland	0.13
Orissa	1.58
Punjab	7.13
Rajasthan	6.37
Sikkim	0.13
Tamil Nadu	16.21
Tripura	0.17
Uttaranchal	0.03
Uttar Pradesh	12.30
West Bengal	6.28
TOTAL:	119.17

States	New LPG Enrol Jan.-Dec. 2000
Union Territories	
Andaman & Nicobar	0.06
Chandigarh	0.14
Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.03
Daman & Diu	0.01
Lakshadweep	0.00
Pondicherry	0.43
TOTAL:	0.68
All India	**119.85**

Benami LPG agencies in Delhi

2548. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have ordered action against some benami operators of LPG (Cooking Gas) agencies in New Delhi for violation of ownership norms;

(b) if so, the details of those agencies and what action has been taken against them;

(c) whether Government are aware that a number of Petrol Pumps allotted out of SC/ST quota are being run by benami operators; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to detect such benami operators of petrol pumps in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR):

(a) and (b) It has been brought to the notice of the Government that 25 LPG distributorships of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) in New Delhi are being operated by un-authorised persons. Accordingly, Government have advised OMCs to take action against erring distributors in terms of Distributorship Agreement. Five LPG agencies have been terminated and action against rest of the agencies is in the progress.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected.